

RF 290.1159USN 11/27/06

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In the abstract:

Please amend the abstract as shown below:

5 The invention provides a tuner has constituent component
for constructing a tunable or switchable spectral filter,
including single and multiple stage filters and fitters
without intermediate polarizer, over a wavelength range,,
which is characterized in that it It has comprises elements
10 arranged in cascade along a light beam axis including a
dispersive polarization rotator, having that has its rotation
angle $p(\lambda)$ varying as a function of light wavelength
 λ over said the wavelength range, an orientation-
sensitive polarizing element, and means for rotating said
15 polarizing element or/and varying said rotation angle
 $p(\lambda)$; whereby said polarization rotator and said
polarizing element are arranged in series in said spectral
filter along said light beam axis with said polarizing
element oriented at a predetermined orientation angle related
20 to the structure of said spectral filter, and said tuner is
operated by rotating said polarizing element to change its
orientation in said filter or/and by changing said rotation
angle $p(\lambda)$. The invention is also concerned with said
filters and furthermore tuning methods for tuning said
25 filters.